



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 7 September 2007

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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- According to the Associated Press, there is renewed interest in uranium in North Dakota. A North Dakota geologist said his office is beginning to field inquiries from mining companies interested in staking new claims—the first since the state's uranium mines shut down in the late 1960s. (See item [5](#))
- Reuters is reporting that Fairbank Farms, a U.S. ground beef producer is voluntarily recalling beef patties sold to Shaw's Supermarkets in New England because of concerns about E. coli contamination. (See item [26](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation and Border Security; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: **ELEVATED**,
Cyber: **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. **September 6, AP – Energy futures mixed on inventory report.** Energy futures were mixed Thursday after the government reported an unexpectedly large decline in oil inventories and an equally surprising jump in refinery activity. Prices retreated from earlier gains that followed unsettling news from abroad. Syrian armed forces had opened fire on Israel fighters that allegedly violated Syrian airspace, and the U.S. embassy in Nigeria warned that American and other Western interests in the country are at risk of a terrorist attack. In its weekly inventory report, the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration said crude oil inventories fell by 3.9 million barrels in the week ended August 31. Gasoline inventories fell by 1.5 million barrels. Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose \$1.24 to \$76.97 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, while October gasoline futures fell by 0.7 cent to \$1.9895 a

gallon.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/06/AR2007090600472.html>

2. *September 5, U.S. Department of Energy* – **Department of Energy will consolidate surplus plutonium in South Carolina.** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced its decision to consolidate surplus, non-pit plutonium at its Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina, reducing storage costs and significantly enhancing security across the nation's weapons complex. DOE will begin shipping the surplus, non-pit plutonium no sooner than 30 days from today and under the plan this surplus plutonium is expected to be shipped to SRS by 2010. The DOE's decision will reduce the number of sites with special nuclear material, enhancing the security of these materials and reducing the costs associated with plutonium storage, surveillance and monitoring, and security at multiple sites. By transferring the material to one location, the Department expects to increase security while avoiding significant costs at multiple sites.

Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5471.htm>

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Chemical Industry

3. *September 5, NJ.com* – **Plant evacuated in chlorine spill.** Several workers were evacuated from a building at the New Jersey American Water Company in Millburn late this afternoon following what was believed to be a liquid chlorine spill, but no residents were affected or evacuated, police said. The spill was confined to one building on the industrial property on JFK Parkway. As the liquid was being transferred from one tank into another, an unknown amount spilled, and it turned into gas. The spill forced the evacuation of fewer than 12 workers, the captain said. No one was injured, and no detoxification was necessary.
Source: http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2007/09/millburn_plant_evacuated_in_ch.html
4. *September 5, WKRN.com* – **Fire damages 20 percent of chemical plant in Tennessee.** A fire broke out at a Nashville chemical plant and damaged a significant portion of the building. Firefighters put out the blaze, and no one was injured.
Source: <http://www.wkrn.com/nashville/news/blaze-damages-nashville-chemical-plant/116404.htm>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste

5. *September 6, AP* – **Renewed interest in uranium in North Dakota.** There is a renewed interest in uranium exploration in the West. Worldwide demand for nuclear power pushed the price of uranium from roughly \$7 a pound in 2002 to about \$135 by midsummer. A North Dakota geologist said his office is beginning to field inquiries from mining companies interested in staking new claims—the first since the state's uranium mines shut down in the late 1960s. North Dakota's mines produced about 592,000 pounds of uranium oxide while they were in operation between 1962 and 1967, and new mines probably would produce a greater

amount, according to the geologist.

Source: http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8RFQR400&show_article=1&catnum=1

6. *September 5, AP* – **NRC eyes penalties for NY nuclear plant.** The owner of the Indian Point nuclear power plants near New York City could face penalties for not keeping close enough tabs on minute amounts of radioactive material, federal regulators said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said Tuesday it was considering "whether to take enforcement action" against Indian Point owner Entergy Nuclear for missing inventory checks on some tiny amounts of uranium-235. They were contained in detectors once used to measure the power of the plant's two nuclear reactors.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070905/ap_on_re_us/indian_point_1

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *September 6, North County Times* – **San Diego defense contractor setting up new facility.** A San Diego defense contractor will develop cargo-inspection technology for the nation's ports and borders, according to documents filed with the city. Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) will test and manufacture security tools, such as X-ray scanners and radiation detectors, according to an application submitted to a California city's planning department earlier this year.

Source: http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/09/06/news/inland/vista/19_10_529_5_07.txt

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *September 6, UPI* – **Virtually every state hit by mortgage scam.** CBS News has reported that scammers are preying on vulnerable homeowners in virtually every state by charging fees on promises to help stop foreclosure on their homes. Victims are told to cut off contact with their lenders while these so-called "rescue companies" work out a deal on the homeowner's behalf. They then do nothing to prevent foreclosure.

Source:

http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Business/2007/09/06/virtually_every_state_hit_by_mortgage_scam/8525/

9. *September 6, BBC News* – **Fraud ring uncovered in Nigeria.** After sifting through tons of mail, investigators from Nigeria, the UK, and the US uncovered a multi-million dollar fraud ring. The fraudsters sent letters requesting help in exporting money from Nigeria and promising the victims a percentage of the funds in exchange for their bank details. In addition to thousands of counterfeit checks, the anti-fraud police also found forged identification papers and financial documents.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/6982375.stm>

10. *September 6, Birmingham News* – **Scheme costs banks \$500,000.** Two Birmingham men employed homeless people and drug addicts to go to various banks and cash fraudulent checks

in exchange for drugs. After depositing the checks, the criminals would call the banks and provide a 'new' emergency number of the business releasing the check. Then they would give the phone number of a prepaid phone, which would be answered by an impersonator when bank employees would make the verification call. As a result of the scheme, banks lost at least \$500,000. The two criminals were charged with "knowingly making and possessing counterfeited and forged securities with the intent to deceive another person and other organizations, and conspiracy to commit bank fraud." According to a spokesman for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, it is common for counterfeiters to use individuals willing to commit crimes in exchange for small amounts of money. Although fake, the checks used in this incident showed the names of legitimate businesses and genuine routing and accounting numbers.

Source:

<http://www.al.com/news/birminghamnews/index.ssf?/base/news/1189068166305870.xml>

11. *September 6, Daily Herald* – **Glen Ellyn police warn of worker scam.** Police officials in Glen Ellyn, Illinois released a warning about criminals trying to impersonate AT&T employees in an attempt to gain access to homes. For the time being, police advised the local residents not to open their doors to unannounced visitors. Legitimate employees should be able to provide work ID's and drive marked vehicles from the utility company for which they work.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=32194>

12. *September 5, WNDU-NBC* – **ND Credit Union scam.** Police officials announced they might have captured the man who tried to obtain the debit card and pin numbers of Notre Dame Federal Credit Union customers. The suspect sent an email with an attached link leading to a site resembling the Credit Union official website. This is yet another phishing scam trying to trick people into providing their personal and account information to criminals. Authorities stressed the fact that credit unions do not request this type of information via emails.

Source: <http://www.wndu.com/news/headlines/9602442.html>

13. *September 5, CNN Money* – **Finkelstein Thompson LLP announces filing of securities fraud class action against UTStarcom, Inc.** Finkelstein Thompson LLP has filed a Class Action lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California on behalf of common stock holders or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of UTStarcom, Inc. between July 24, 2002 and September 4, 2007. Finkelstein Thompson LLP alleges that UTStarcom misrepresented and omitted material facts concerning the Company's backdating of stock option grants to its officers and executives, thus defrauding investors.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/DCW06305092007-1.htm>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

14. *September 6, All American Patriots* – **DHS announces west coast maritime radiation Detection Project.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) announced a new program involving maritime radiation detection capabilities for recreational or small commercial vessels. The pilot program, which will be launched at Washington's Puget Sound and California's San Diego area ports, will cost approximately \$10

million. DNDO focused the new technology toward small vessels- less than 300 gross tons- such as commercial fishing vessels, recreational boats and yachts, and towing vessels. The equipment deployed to the aforementioned locations will include passive detection sensors, such as human-portable radiation detection equipment, mobile sensors, and fixed-position detectors. According to DNDO, the program will be inaugurated at Puget Sound in July, and will be launched soon in San Diego.

Source:

http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/48731513_dhs_dhs_announces_west_coast_maritime_radiation_detection_project

15. *September 6, SYS-CON* – **Universal detection technology comments on installation of 26 radiation monitors in Florida port.** In an attempt to secure the nation's ports, the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) deployed three more radiation portal monitors (RPM) to the Port of Palm Beach. The latest RPM addition brings the total number of devices to 26, which were installed throughout Florida. "These radiation portal monitors are a great addition to our layered approach to securing the nation's border while facilitating legitimate trade" said CBP's director of field operation in South Florida. The radiological detection systems are developed by the Universal Detection Technology.

Source: <http://www.sys-con.com/read/425126.htm>

16. *September 6, Bismark Tribune* – **Four bridges closed following inspections.** Following state inspections, four rural bridges have been closed in North Dakota. On Aug. 27, state officials started the inspection of 751 bridges, which were previously labeled 'structurally deficient', four of which were closed because of rotten wood. All four spans are located in Cass County. Bridges also have been closed near Hillsboro, in Trail County, and near Hazelton, in Emmons County. The inspection of all 751 bridges is expected to end by the end of October.

Source: <http://www.bismarcktribune.com/articles/2007/09/06/news/state/138873.txt>

17. *September 6, The Washington Post* – **Quick fixes sought for roads near Fort Meade.** Military officials are planning a major expansion of the Fort Meade base, where 22,000 thousand of new employees will be relocated by 2011. The program, which is part of the Pentagon's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) restructuring, is posing challenges to transportation officials, who consider the access routes to Fort Meade should be widened. Both routes 175 and 198 need to undergo an accelerated construction processes, according to a special assistant overseeing Fort Meade growth issues for the Anne Arundel County executive. Because of the complexity of the new required project, local officials decided to first manage avenues to unblock local intersections and increase the bus service to Fort Meade. The deputy administrator for the State Highway Administration announced that "the widening of a five-mile stretch of Route 175, Anne Arundel's top road project for years, won't even begin before 2012, and the project could take three years and cost \$300 million." The official also does not foresee that the widening of a three-mile segment of Maryland Route 198 beyond the existing two lanes will begin until at least 2013. Nevertheless, state authorities are keen on trying to increase transportation funds, primarily through an increase in fuel tax.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/05/AR2007090500760_pf.html

18. *September 6, News Observer* – **U.S. 15-501 widening is near.** North Carolina residents and travelers between Durham and Chapel Hill will soon benefit from “a smoother flow along a cramped stretch of U.S. 15-501, starting in August 2010.” The state Board of Transportation is currently auctioning an \$18.8 million contract to widen a four-lane section of U.S. 15-501 connecting the two cities and to conduct several additional improvements to the road. The contract is expected to go to the Virginia- based DLB Inc. The project will start in October and last for three years.
Source: <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/durham/story/693864.html>
19. *September 5, El Paso Times* – **After chase, agents seize half ton of marijuana.** On Wednesday, El Paso U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agents arrested the driver of an SUV transporting 1,083 pounds of marijuana. The smuggler, a 33-year old Mexican national, was arrested and charged after a short chase by the Fort Hancock Border Patrol officers. At the time of the capture, the officers heard gun shots on the Mexican side of the border, but they remain uncertain if the shots were aimed at them. After the smuggler’s information was entered in the national crime database, officers discovered that the criminal had been previously charged with various crimes, including possession of marijuana.
Source: http://www.elpasotimes.com/newupdated/ci_6809225
20. *September 5, Reuters* – **Bridge inspections show no problems so far.** Following the collapse of the Minneapolis Bridge, states were ordered to conduct inspections on all their bridges. The administrator of the Federal Highway Administration told the House of Representatives Transportation Committee concluding that “We have not seen anything that would cause us concern, nothing systematic. In fact, we haven’t had to close or limit the use of a bridge as a result of these inspections.” A total of 760 steel truss bridges have been inspected nationwide since August 1, the date when the Mississippi River Bridge collapsed. More than 73,000 bridges were designated as structurally deficient and legislators are now concerned with providing the funds necessary for their repairs. Some transportation officials proposed an increase in fuel tax, which would possibly generate more than \$40 billion, according to the Transportation Committee chairman. Nevertheless, Congress is currently still reluctant to consider such a bill.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN0526661020070905?pageNumber=2>
21. *September 5, Bizjournals* – **KC gets \$12M for public transit.** The U.S. Department of Transportation announced a \$12 million grant to the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority's Troost Bus Rapid Transit project. The city has previously benefited of a \$6.3 million award, which was announced in May. The funds will contribute to a nine-mile long line, which serves 25 stations along Troost Avenue and ending in downtown Kansas City. According to recent data, the new program will facilitate buses running during peak period on this line to carry 9,000 passengers daily. The recent award, secured through the Federal Highway Reauthorization bill, represents a sizable amount of the total \$30.7 million estimated project.
Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/stories/2007/09/03/daily22.html>

Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *September 6, WJACTV News Channel 6, Pennsylvania* – **Curwensville post office near-total loss after blaze.** A late afternoon fire yesterday resulted in the collapse of the roof and severe damage to the interior of the Curwensville, PA post office. None of the mail was lost, but the building is unusable. A temporary location is sought. The origin of the blaze is unknown, but a construction crew was working on the exterior of the building near the roof with heat guns and torches.

Source: <http://www.wjactv.com/news/14056895/detail.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *September 6, AP* – **Robots may become essential on US farms.** With authorities promising tighter borders, some farmers who rely on immigrant labor are eyeing an emerging generation of fruit-picking robots and high-tech tractors to do everything from pluck premium wine grapes to clean and core lettuce. Mechanized picking wouldn't be new for some California crops such as canning tomatoes, low-grade wine grapes and nuts. A set of scanning and harvesting units will likely cost about \$500,000 when the equipment reaches market.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070906/ap_on_hi_te/farm_scene;_ylt

24. *September 6, Reuters* – **Company recalls beef patties sold in New England.** Fairbank Farms, a U.S. ground beef producer, said on Wednesday it is voluntarily recalling beef patties sold to Shaw's Supermarkets in New England because of concerns about E. coli contamination. Fairbank Farms said the patties, which were shipped to stores in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, could have been purchased by consumers on Wednesday between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN0527100520070906>

25. *September 5, AP* – **Study: Wrong fish used to save species.** A 20-year government effort to restore the population of endangered greenback cutthroat trout native to Colorado has made little progress because biologists have been stocking some of the waterways with the more common Colorado River cutthroat trout, a new study says. Advances in genetic testing, helped biologists discover the error, which was called a potential black eye, but they said there is still hope for restoring the greenback cutthroat trout population.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070906/ap_on_sc/wrong_fish;_ylt

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Water Sector

26. *September 6, Daily Press* – **The weather is nice, but don't go in the water.** The Virginia Department of Public Health has issued a swimming advisory for areas of Virginia Beach after tests demonstrated elevated bacteria levels. These bacteria are known to cause intestinal illnesses and skin, eye, and respiratory infections.

Source: <http://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-now-swimmingadvisory.0,958019.story>

27. *September 5, Union-Tribune* – **Multiyear shortage of water discussed.** San Diego County is likely to face a multiyear water shortage similar to the drought of the early 1990s. Friday's court ruling regarding use of water from the Sacramento Delta added to concerns over high temperatures and the continued low level of the Colorado River. Many are concerned about the water shortage's effect on economic growth in the area, as it is politically difficult to add new connections, while restricting water use. Some city officials are interested in increasing the water supply via recycling, but this is controversial. City officials have long been advocating voluntary reductions in water use and looking at desalination processes, but mandatory water restrictions are likely to take effect by 2009.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070905-9999-1m5short.html>

28. *September 5, Grand Rapids Press* – **Birds blamed for E. coli in water.** Nesting birds are blamed for the E. coli found in the water supply of Greenville, Michigan two weeks ago. A recent inspection of a water tank revealed open bolt holes in the top of the tank. Birds had built nests on the water tower and rainwater washed bird droppings into the tank, likely resulting in the contamination. The bolt holes have been welded shut and the birds and their nests removed.

Source: <http://www.mlive.com/news/grpress/index.ssf?/base/news-38/1189000190297680.xml&coll=6>

29. *September 3, WaterWeek* – **Congressional Water Caucus organizing.** A recently formed bipartisan water caucus invites new members to join them in their educational agenda. The five chairs are from Michigan, Georgia, and California; the members include representatives from 11 other states, many in the West. The letter sent out to other members of the House of Representatives enumerates "The Twelve Principles of Water Policy", including various drought reduction and prevention techniques and support of funding for water recycling projects.

Source: <http://www.awwa.org/Publications/WaterWeekCurrent.cfm?navItemNumber=1624>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

30. *September 6, People's Daily, China* – **One more Indonesian man dies of bird flu.** The 33-year-old Indonesian man from Riau province on Sumatra Island, who contracted bird flu on August 25 and was being treated in the bird-flu designed Arifin Ahmad hospital in the province's capital, died on Thursday, the Indonesian Health Ministry said. The death raises the total bird flu fatality there to 85 out of 106 cases, or roughly 80 percent. As the number of virus victims slowly rises, health authorities have decided to use the country's own anti-bird flu vaccine after September, despite a WHO suggestion to stock pile the vaccines. Experts said that a lack of determination on the part of the provincial administration in implementing federal guidelines in a huge territory where people often raise chickens in their back yards has hindered the country's efforts to fight the bird flu.

Source: <http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90782/6256748.html>

31. *September 6, Bloomberg* – **Youth suicides rise the most in 15 years, CDC says.** Suicides

among children and young adults in the U.S. rose 8 percent in 2004, the largest single-year increase since 1990, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. The biggest percentage jumps were recorded among girls aged 10 to 19, and boys aged 15 to 19, according to a survey released by the agency today. Suicide accounted for 4,599 deaths in 2004, making it the third-leading killer among Americans ages 10 to 24, behind car crashes and homicides, the research found. The report, part of an annual analysis by the Atlanta-based CDC, didn't identify a reason for the increase.

Source: http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=al4Po_JOhrzQ&refer=us

32. *September 6, New York Times* – **Anthrax is found in 2 Connecticut residents, one a drummer.** Two people in Danbury, Conn., have contracted anthrax, probably from animal hides brought from Africa to make drums, the authorities said on Wednesday. An FBI, New Haven office spokesman said the cases did not appear to be terrorism-related. This is the second time in two years that African drummers in the metropolitan region have contracted anthrax. Untreated hides are thought to be the source in both cases.
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/06/nyregion/06anthrax.html>
33. *September 6, Reuters* – **Prescription drug abuse grows in U.S.** More young U.S. adults are abusing prescription medications, particularly painkillers, according to the government's annual report on substance abuse released on Thursday. Overall, in 2006, 9.2 percent of Americans ages 12 and up either abused or were addicted to drugs or alcohol in the prior year, according to estimates in the report from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The 2006 report found that non-medical use of prescription drugs, mostly pain relievers, among young adults increased from 5.4 percent in 2002 to 6.4 percent in 2006. The agency said 3.2 million Americans were dependent on or abused both alcohol and illicit drugs and 3.8 million were dependent on or abused illicit drugs but not alcohol. The findings were based on responses given by about 67,500 people to a government survey.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN0526318720070906>
34. *September 6, News Locale* – **906 human West Nile Virus infections reported in US to date.** According to the latest data from the U.S. Geological Survey, 906 people in the U.S. have been infected with the West Nile virus this year. California is the worst affected state with 172 people infected. Among those, six cases have been fatal. Furthermore 722 birds have tested positive for the virus in California this year. Around 673 positive mosquito samples were found this year as opposed to the 575 in 2006.
Source:
http://www.newslocale.org/health/hnews/906_human_west_nile_virus_infections_reported_in_us_to_date_20070906440.html
35. *September 5, Baltimore Sun* – **Rare mosquito-borne virus found on shore.** Mosquitoes carrying Eastern equine encephalitis were trapped in late August in Worcester County's Pocomoke Swamp, an area regularly checked for infectious mosquitoes, according to a Maryland Department of Agriculture official. This is the first Maryland appearance in four years of the rare mosquito-borne virus that infects birds, horses and humans. Risk of the virus is very low for humans, but when contracted the mortality rate is approximately 33 percent, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Source: http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bay_environment/bal-mosquito0905,0,3661186.story

36. *September 5, AP* – **West Nile count rises to 129.** South Dakota logged 22 new cases of West Nile last week, bring the states total this year to 129 cases and passing last years total of 113 cases (3 of which were fatal). According to the U.S. Geological Survey website (http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/wnv_us_human.html) South and North Dakota have been two of the hardest hit states this year.

Source: <http://www.kxmc.com/News/159221.asp>

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Government Facilities Sector

37. *September 6, AP* – **U.S. interests said at risk in Nigeria.** The U.S. Embassy in Nigeria sent a consular statement today stating that U.S. and other Western installations are at risk of a terrorist attack. Targets in the cities of Abuja and Lagos were specifically mentioned. Although no organization was indicated as the source of the threats, al-Qaida has targeted Nigeria for liberation.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/world/AP-Nigeria-US.html>

38. *September 5, Reuters* – **U.S. builds for future at Guantanamo.** By March, the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo should be ready to hear up to three simultaneous terrorism trials. In addition to the existing courtroom, the US military is building a \$10 million mobile courtroom complex, which will add two courtrooms. Currently, attempts to try Guantanamo prisoners in tribunals are held up in legal appeals, but the U.S. military would like to be prepared to hear the cases once the appeal process is over.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSN0526877120070905>

39. *September 6, CNNMoney* – **U.S. Navy to save \$33 million in energy costs while increasing use of renewable energy sources at Dam Neck Annex.** Since the Energy Policy Act of 2005, government facilities have sought ways to reduce their energy use. The U.S. Navy base at Dam Neck Annex in Virginia recently signed a \$33 million Energy Savings Performance Contract with Trane, which should result in an annual savings of \$2.5 million in energy costs plus \$500,000 in maintenance and operating costs.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/NYTH08706092007-1.htm>

40. *September 6, WTOK News Channel 11, Meridian, MS* – **Classes resume Friday at West Lauderdale Elementary.** After an accident Wednesday night, where a school employee knocked over a propane tank while mowing the grass, the elementary school in Lauderdale County, Mississippi will reopen on Friday. The gas and electricity were turned off and the area was secured while the damaged gas line was replaced.

Source: <http://www.wtok.com/news/headlines/9618102.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

41. *September 06, News-Journal* – **New software speeds up response times for emergency crews.** By 2008, emergency responders will merely click their fingers to locate people in distress, thanks to computer software upgrades for regional 911 coordinators. The East Texas Council of Governments' geographic information systems software maintains and coordinates maps for local agencies that can be used in case of an emergency or just to locate people, structures or private roads. A new upgrade to the software will allow emergency operations centers and emergency responders to access this information with specific structure locations and addresses to support faster response during catastrophic events, said the geographic information systems manager for the council. Responders will be able to search data on the maps during catastrophic events, Flores said. The maps also will feature spatial analysis, route planning where available and extra-territorial jurisdiction boundaries for member cities. The program also supports the future creation of three-dimensional mapping.
Source: <http://www.news-journal.com/news/content/news/stories/09062007ETCOG.html>

42. *September 6, The Tribune* – **Emergency responders to stage large-scale drill at airport in Colorado.** In October multiple agencies will participate in an emergency drill at the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport. An emergency drill of this scope is required every three years to meet the Federal Aviation Administration's stringent safety requirements. The mock disaster will use a donated bus to simulate a plane and will test the emergency response for fire departments, emergency medical services and law enforcement. About 20 to 25 volunteers will act as patients suffering from mock wounds that simulate trauma greens, trauma yellows and trauma reds. Evaluators will take notes on all of the different components of emergency response including the communication system, site security, patient treatment, triage and transport, and fire response.
Source: <http://www.greeleytrib.com/article/20070906/NEWS/109050121/-1/rss02>

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Information Technology

43. *September 06, AFP* – **Chinese hackers cyber-attacking British government networks.** Chinese computer hackers are infiltrating British government networks, giving them access to secret information, according to media reports on Thursday. "China is engaged in hostile intelligence activities, and instead of using the old-fashioned methods, they are focusing on electronic means to hack into systems to discover Britain's defense and foreign policy secrets, and they are technologically pretty advanced and adept at it," an unnamed government source told The Times. Another senior government source, meanwhile, told The Independent: "Governments throughout the West have been aware of this for a number of years. It has been an ongoing practice by the Chinese. They are trying it all the time. The firewalls that need to go in are going in." Both the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Defence have declined to comment on the reports. In Washington, the Pentagon said Tuesday that several nations and groups were trying to break into the US military's computer system after the Financial Times reported China's military had successfully hacked into the network in June.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/britainchinaintelligenceit&printer=1;_ylt

44. *September 06, Information Week* – **Conference to feature a way to measure real security on**

virtual machines. The upcoming VMworld conference will feature the draft of a guide on how to make virtual machines more secure, addressing one of the most sensitive issues in the burgeoning adoption of virtualization in the data center. The Center for Internet Security, a non-profit organization that specifies best security practices for Windows and other data center software, will be floating an early version of a "hardened" set of security guidelines for VMware's ESX Server. The center calls its guides benchmarks. They are written with a focus on security performance, not speed, as with other benchmark measures. The guide was drafted with input from security experts, VMware, Configuresoft, and major virtualization users, said the VP of the center, in an interview. An analyst with Gartner predicts that by 2009, 60% of production virtual machines will be less secure than their physical counterparts. That's because the rapid implementation of virtual machines breaks down some of the old security disciplines in the data center; the separation of duties between server administrators and security administrators is less distinct than with physical servers. CIS is still seeking comment on the draft. The finished benchmark will be available for public download from www.cisecurity.org, the center's Web site, by the end of the month.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=201804364>

45. *September 06, IDG News Service* – **Four plead guilty to e-mail, securities fraud.** Three U.S. men and one man living in France have pled guilty to charges related to a stock manipulation scheme that included sending out tens of millions of spam messages to pump up the stock value of 15 companies, the U.S. Department of Justice said Thursday. The four men cost investors more than \$20 million in their so-called pump-and-dump scheme, the DOJ said. The stock manipulation schemes generally followed a similar pattern, the DOJ said. The defendants generally solicited small, privately held companies that needed to raise money. One of the defendants would offer to help the company raise significant money through the sale of the company's stock, and then the defendants would list the company's shares on the Pink Sheets, a price quotation system primarily used for trading small companies' stocks. The group of defendants would then gain control of a majority of the stock of the company, the DOJ said. The co-conspirators then engaged in deceptive and manipulative trading practices to boost the price and volume of the company's stock, the DOJ said. In some cases, members of the conspiracy encouraged investors to purchase companies' stock by giving the investors free-trading shares in return for buying blocks of shares at agreed-upon prices, thereby creating the illusion of trading volume and active investor interest. The three defendants are scheduled to be sentenced between late November and early February.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=201804364>

46. *September 06, InformationWeek* – **Users should be wary when web sites ask for too much info.** Security researchers at Fortinet say a new trend among popular Web sites like Facebook may be teaching users the wrong lesson, causing them to unlearn what took years to teach them in the first place. The rule of thumb for well-educated online users is to never give out sensitive information, such as log-in credentials. That kind of information is the stuff of dreams for the growing numbers of phishers and hackers hungry for user names, passwords, and other useful bits of online identities. The problem is that a growing number of legitimate Web sites are asking users to hand over just this information, according to the manager of threat research at Fortinet. "There are a lot of sites out there asking for this information," he said. "It used to just be phishers and now we're seeing legitimate sites, like Facebook, doing it."

People are giving them the information because they think it's convenient but it's just a bad idea.” He explained that sites like Facebook ask for users' e-mail and IM login information so they, for example, can pick out their users' friends' addresses and set up their contact list for them. It saves users time. The problem is that while Facebook may be on the up and up when it comes to going through users' contact lists, many other sites and individuals are not, and bad habits are hard to break.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=201804314>

47. *September 06, Wall Street Journal* – **Disk makers to offer encrypted drives.** Seagate Technology today is introducing drives for desktop personal computers that use special chips to encrypt information to make it unreadable if a computer equipped with the devices falls into the wrong hands. Companies more commonly rely on software to encrypt data while government agencies have long preferred hardware to carry out data-scrambling chores, because it is harder to attack by unscrupulous programmers. Several other disk makers have announced similar drives with various forms of encryption. While some PC users encrypt their email to safeguard the contents against interception, the moves reflect a widening recognition that data are often exposed to greater risk when they are at rest in a computer – particularly when a laptop goes missing. Consequently, the first encrypted drives were targeted at portable PCs. Another advantage of chip-based encryption, Seagate said, comes when a computer is transferred to another user. Ordinarily, disks must be overwritten as many as seven times to ensure data can't be retrieved. When data are encrypted, however, a company can destroy the password needed to decode the data, and then reformat the drive – a much faster process.

Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB118904621755019036.html?mod=hps_us_whats_news

48. *September 05, ComputerWorld* – **Critical bugs plague QuickBooks' online service, warns US-CERT.** The federal government's cyberdefense arm today warned users of the popular QuickBooks small-business accounting software that they risk losing data and control of their PCs to hackers. According to two advisories published by the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT), the ActiveX control that enables Intuit Inc.'s QuickBooks Online Edition contains flaws that attackers can exploit simply by getting users to view an HTML e-mail message or visit a malicious Web site. The more dangerous of the bugs could allow attackers to not only seed a vulnerable Windows PC with malware, said a US-CERT researcher, but “an attacker can also retrieve arbitrary files from a victim's computer.” This is not the first time that ActiveX vulnerabilities in non-Microsoft products have been found. Just over a month ago, for example, a critical ActiveX flaw was spotted in Yahoo Widgets, a development platform that runs small, Web-based, gadget-like applications on Windows desktops.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9034519&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

49. *September 05, IDG News Service* – **Germany implements security plan to protect IT infrastructure.** The German government has agreed to implement a sweeping set of security measures aimed at protecting critical IT infrastructure in the country. The move to implement the two year-old plan follows last week's reports about continued efforts by Chinese hackers to plant Trojan horse programs on government computers. Security experts from Germany's

Federal Office for Information Security and Federal Data Protection Office discovered in May Trojan horse programs in computers used in several government ministries, including the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Economics and the Research and Development Ministry, as well as Chancellor Angela Merkel's office. The IT security policies that the federal government will implement have been developed in cooperation with more than 30 large German companies that offer critical infrastructure services such as electricity, natural gas, banking, and telecommunications, and depend on secure and reliable communication systems to operate their networks. The companies have also agreed to implement the IT security measures within their organizations. With the targeting of German troops and others working in Afghanistan in recent weeks, government officials, including the Federal Interior, point to a heightened threat level that makes IT security an issue of increasing urgency.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/09/05/German-security-plan_1.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

50. *September 06, AP* – **Judge strikes down part of Patriot Act.** A federal judge struck down parts of the revised USA Patriot Act on Thursday, saying investigators must have a court's approval before they can order Internet providers to turn over records without telling customers. The judge said the government orders must be subject to judicial review. The American Civil Liberties Union had challenged the law, complaining that it allowed the FBI to demand records without a court order. Under issue is the issuing of national security letters, or NSLs—investigative tools used by the FBI to compel businesses to turn over customer information—without a judge's order or grand jury subpoena. Examples of such businesses include Internet service providers, telephone companies and public libraries. A spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office, said prosecutors had no immediate comment. In 2004, ruling on the initial version of the Patriot Act, the judge found that the nondisclosure requirement — under which an Internet service provider, for instance, would not be allowed to tell customers that it was turning over their records to the government — violated free speech. After he ruled, Congress revised the Patriot Act in 2005, and the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals directed that the judge review the law's constitutionality a second time.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070906/ap_on_hi_te/patriot_act_lawsuit;_ylt=AoyjYTctJR_eelz.VobBgG2OOrg

51. *September 06, AP* – **Feds OK fee for priority Web traffic.** The Justice Department on Thursday said Internet service providers should be allowed to charge a fee for priority Web traffic. The agency told the Federal Communications Commission, which is reviewing high-

speed Internet practices, that it is opposed to "Net neutrality," the principle that all Internet sites should be equally accessible to any Web user. Several phone and cable companies have previously said they want the option to charge some users more money for loading certain content or Web sites faster than others. The Justice Department said imposing a Net neutrality regulation could hamper development of the Internet and prevent service providers from upgrading or expanding their networks. It could also shift the "entire burden of implementing costly network expansions and improvements onto consumers," the agency said in its filing. Such a result could diminish or delay network expansion and improvement, it added. The agency said providing different levels of service is common, efficient and could satisfy consumers. As an example, it cited that the U.S. Postal Service charges customers different guarantees and speeds for package delivery, ranging from bulk mail to overnight delivery. "Whether or not the same type of differentiated products and services will develop on the Internet should be determined by market forces, not regulatory intervention," the agency said in its filing. Supporters of Internet regulation have said that phone and cable companies could discriminate against certain Web site and services. However, the agency said it will continue to monitor and enforce any anticompetitive conduct to ensure a competitive broadband marketplace.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070906/ap_on_hi_te/internet_fees_justice_department&printer=1;_ylt=AtwsrYAUA.WPelZwPMu.2VFk24cA

52. *September 05, Reuters* – **U.S. trade commission to investigate Nokia 3G phones.** The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) said it would start an investigation of certain Nokia 3G mobile phones based on a complaint filed by InterDigital last month. InterDigital, a wireless technology firm, alleged in August Nokia was engaged in unfair trade practice involving two InterDigital patents related to certain 3G handsets and components, including Nokia's N75 phone. Nokia, the world's top mobile phone maker, said on Thursday it would vigorously defend itself, its products and its integrity. The ITC said it would set a target date for completing the investigation within 45 days. Nokia said InterDigital had declared the two patents in question as essential to the WCDMA (3G) standard, committing to license these on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory terms. "For the proper functioning of the standardization process and continued industry innovation, Nokia believes companies should refrain from seeking injunctions for standards essential patents," Nokia said. The Finnish firm is also involved in legal battles over patents with U.S. chipmaker Qualcomm.

Source:

http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?storyID=2007-09-06T084522Z_01_L06732241_RTRUKOC_0_US-NOKIA-USA.xml

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Commercial Facilities Sector

53. *September 6, Suburban Chicago News* – **Generators result in 2-hour evacuation of N. Aurora restaurant.** Businesses in a North Aurora strip mall were evacuated Tuesday night after high levels of carbon monoxide were detected in a restaurant. According to the North Aurora Fire Chief, the carbon monoxide was traced back to two generators that the owner of Boca Burritos in the 900 block of Oak Street had brought inside his business. The restaurant

lost power and the owner was using the generators to keep the refrigerators running. Firefighters found carbon monoxide at 170 parts per million, over the 50 ppm level and evacuated everyone inside. The restaurant and nearby businesses were evacuated as a precaution. Firefighters said no one was injured in the incident

Source: http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/beaconnews/news/544589,2_1_AU06_EVACUATE_S1.article

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

54. *September 6, Deseret Morning News* – **Duchesne to fight on in monument case.** The city of Duchesne, Utah faced another set back in its attempt to keep a religious monument out of a city park. The 10 Circuit Court of Appeals reached a split decision in the rehearing of the case between the city and the religious group Summum. In April, the 10th Circuit Court ruled that the city had violated Summum's First Amendment rights in denying them permission to build a religious monument in the city park. A petition for a discretionary review has been filed with the US Supreme Court. The case dates back to 2003, when Summum asked the city to either remove a monument to the Ten Commandments located in the park or allow Summum to erect a monument to their beliefs. Eventually, the city sold the monument and the plot of land to the family that had donated the monument originally, but subsequent court rulings have sided with the Summum and their attempts to construct a monument to the Seven Aphorisms.

Source: <http://deseretnews.com/article/content/mobile/0,5223,695207621,00.html>

55. *September 5, KPTV News Channel 12, Oregon* – **Pot operation found on National Forest land.** An interagency team discovered a major marijuana growing operation on land belonging to a national forest. The people overseeing the marijuana operation were camping in the area and their supplies were discovered around the site. This was the result of a three week investigation by eight agencies.

Source: <http://www.kptv.com/news/14054323/detail.html>

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Dams Sector

56. *September 6, Mail Tribune* – **BLM asks engineers to re-examine dam safety.** The US Bureau of Land Management has asked engineers to reexamine Little Hyatt Lake dam in Greensprings, Oregon. Earlier inspections have concluded that the 1923 dam was a safety hazard due to crumbling concrete. The agency has asked the engineers to ensure that their earlier assessments regarding the structural condition of the dam and the costs of buttressing it remain unchanged. Any work on the dam, either breaching it or buttressing it, would need to be completed before rain and snow begins.

Source: <http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070906/NEWS/709060318>

57. *September 5, Tennessean* – **Dam fix would cost \$240M.** In a recent report, the US Army Corps of Engineers reported that if the leaking Center Hill Dam in Tennessee broke, hundreds of people would die and more than a billion dollars in damage would be caused. The repairs

are estimated to cost \$240 million and take seven to ten years. The water level in the lake has been kept low since 2005 to ease pressure on the dam, but further lowering will be needed during the repair. The Wolf Creek dam, which holds back Lake Cumberland, is also in need of repair. The US Army Corps of Engineers has labeled the situation as an emergency and a seven-year project to repair the dam has begun.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS02/709050431>

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